

68-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

Father of 5, Despondent, Kills Himself

RICHMOND — Eddie J. Boisseau, 25, father of five children under eight years old, was slated to be given last rites at 4 p. m. at the Scott funeral home at 711 N. Twenty-ninth Street, after committing suicide on Monday.

Mr. Boisseau, member of the family well known in business on Church Hill and E. Main Street, shot himself in the head with a .22 rifle at 2708 P Street.

Members of his family said that the former tobacco factory worker had been in ill health for many months and unable to work.

He was rushed to St. Philip Hospital by a brother, Linwood Boisseau, and pronounced dead on arrival.

Survivors include: His wife, Mrs. Mildred Boisseau, and three sons and two daughters; father and mother Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boisseau;

Six brothers, Linwood, Carlton Howard, Robert, Jr., Floyd and Joseph Boisseau; a sister, Miss Doris Boisseau and grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boisseau.

His uncle, Eddie Boisseau, operates a restaurant, and other members of the family operate coal, wood, oil and other businesses.

The Rev. J. A. Brown was scheduled to deliver the eulogy.

Former Teacher, Minister's Wife, Ends Life With Pistol

STATESVILLE, N. C. — Suffering from a serious illness of several months and grieving over the recent loss of her father, Mrs. Laura P. Croom, wife of the Rev.

J. W. Croom, pastor of First Baptist Church, took her own life with a .32 calibre pistol at her home here on Garfield street recently.

Rev. Mr. Croom was downstairs making a fire and her daughter, Leola, was in bed, when he heard the shot. He rushed upstairs and found Mrs. Croom crouched in a closet dead with a bullet hole in her breast and the pistol lying beside her.

Coroner N. D. Tomlin and Deputy Sheriff Pressly Johnson, who investigated the shooting,

Age-Herald Birmingham, Ala. SUICIDE VICTIMS EXCEED HOMICIDES

Jefferson County had more suicides than homicides in April, according to the report of Coroner Gip M. Evans, which was completed Tuesday. This is the first time this has happened since he took office in 1931, the coroner said.

The April report showed eight suicides of which seven were white persons and one was a Negro. This is said to be the largest number of suicides reported in a single month since June, 1931, when nine were reported.

Homicides in April numbered 10, all cases being Negroes. This was exceptionally low, it was pointed out. In June, 1931, when the record number of suicides was reported there were 11 homicides and in July, 1931, a total of 21 homicides was recorded.

The coroner's report showed that 10 accidental deaths were investigated, of which three victims were white and seven Negroes. There were 35 cases of natural death investigated, nine of which involved white persons and 26 Negroes. A total of 58 cases were investigated in the month.

Milwaukee Father Kills Self With Shotgun Blast

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Robert Baker, 34-year-old father of three small children, shot and killed himself with a shotgun Thursday, according to a report to the coroner.

Head of the Baker Brothers Car Laundry, the deceased conducted a reportedly prosperous business, but of late, it is said, he had become despondent.

Former Teacher Called it a clear case of suicide and decided that no inquest was necessary.

APR 10 1943
FORMER TEACHER

Mrs. Croom had taught for a number of years in the local city and county school systems, and was an active church worker. The family had lived in Statesville for the past 17 years.

Surviving besides her husband and daughter are her mother, eight brothers and other relatives.

The funeral was held from First Baptist Church last week with the Rev. G. M. Phelps officiating. The following ministers assisted: the Revs. William Wyatt of Salisbury, W. M. Blackwell, B. L. Burge, W.

F. Jones, Z. A. Dockery, M. McCurry, Thomasville; J. T. Hairston, Asheville; J. W. Caldwell, Roanoke, Va.; John Smith, C. Houston, S. Sherrill, Bishop F. Simmiton, L. Daniel, D. Rucker, G. McKelvey, H. Stinson, and J. E. Kirby of High Point.

Others appearing on the program were Mrs. William Wyatt, Miss M. A. Williams, Mrs. C. M. Holliday, Mrs. G. M. Phelps, J. Q. Davidson, A. D. Rutherford, and Mrs. Alma Davidson.

Pallbearers were J. L. White, R. E. Maxwell, Melvin Feimster, William Sherrill, and G. F. Dalton. Flower bearers were Madams G. M. Phelps, Hattie Lackey, J. W. Caldwell, William Blackwell, and others.

The body was taken to Roanoke Rapids, N. C., for interment. The tragedy happened Saturday morning, March 20, about 7:30.

Navy Yard Employee Left Wife, Children For Victim

Forty-year-old Theodore Handley, Navy Yard worker, was so insanely jealous of the woman for whom he left his wife and four children he murdered her in cold blood and then blew out his own brains when she told him she was going to attend a funeral last Wednesday.

Handley used three bullets, fired from a .22 calibre revolver, to blast out the life of Mrs. Agnes Walker, 33, and commit suicide. He shot the woman, his paramour, twice, but needed only one bullet to end his own life.

The murder and suicide were committed in the second rear room at 416 south 15th street. The bodies were discovered at 9:15 A.M. Thursday.

Mrs. Alma Conyer, janitress of the dwelling, notified police that "somebody had been shot", after being so informed by Miss Mary Peterson, who was in the second floor front.

Detective Richard Anderson, attached to the 12th and Pine streets station, was among the first police officers on the scene. He said that when he entered the death room he saw Mrs. Walker lying beside the bed in a pool of blood.

Behind the door, he found Handley, and nearby the murder gun. Both victims had been shot in the head, Anderson said. Mrs. Walker had two wounds, and Handley one. "His brains were lying on the floor," the detective said.

Detective Anderson said that he learned through investigation that Handley and Mrs. Walker had been living together as man and wife for the past two months.

While he was employed at the Na-

WOMAN TAKES OWN LIFE ON FALSE REPORT

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 1—(ANP)—Mrs. Ollie Gay died Wednesday at the University hospital of lye poisoning taken when unidentified persons told her that her son, a soldier stationed overseas with the American army, was drowned, according to the office of Coroner R. Allen Elliott, who is conducting an investigation.

Officials said that the woman

took the lye immediately after being told that her son had been drowned while fighting somewhere with the Army. They say that reports indicate that the boy is alive somewhere overseas. A telegram was sent to the Army post office in California with the hope that a cable to the son will reach him advising him of his mother's death.

Coroner Elliott in commenting on the situation said: "That is what loose talk and idle rumors will do to the innocent in this war."

Handley, Anderson stated, had been estranged from his wife, Mildred, for some time, but still retained an address in the 5800 block of Girard avenue, evidently for voting purposes.

How long Mrs. Walker had been estranged from her husband Anderson could not say. He pointed out, however, that Walker was in the Army.

Handley's body was identified and claimed at the Morgue by his wife, and Mrs. Walker's remains were identified by her brother, Charles Peterson.

As far as could be ascertained, Handley and Mrs. Walker became embroiled in a heated argument when she told him she was going to attend a friend's funeral.

Being extremely jealous, Handley apparently did not believe her and must have thought she was going out to meet another man, a rival. They argued and she threatened to call police. He told her she had better not, and left the house.

He returned shortly thereafter, however, showing signs of having had a few drinks. The argument was resumed, and Handley shot the woman and himself.

Dr. James Norris, dentist, who resides in the apartment house, told police he had heard no shots. Several other residents said the same thing.

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LOS ANGELES—(ANP)—Seven steel-jacketed bullets Sunday evening ended the lives of a young married couple and brought grief to two mothers, when William Lester Aaron, handsome 29-year-old police officer, shot his pretty wife Emel, 26, in her mother's home, then turned the gun on himself. Aaron's service pistol crashed into the face and body of his victim before she could rise from the overstuffed chair in which she was sitting.

He fired two into his own head, thier martial union had seemed an ing in this, apparently the love turning into despair and bitterness and he staggered into the kitchen, reloading, and then he shot himself again, happily at the home of his parents, decided to end it all.

Another shall and shot himself again, happily at the home of his parents, decided to end it all.

falling prone on the floor. Detectives R. H. Varela, and H. A. Howerly, cruising near, arrived just in time to hear the last shot and hurried him to the Georgia Street Receiving hospital, but he died enroute. Mrs. Aaron died instantly, and was found with her head reclining to one side of the chair rest as if asleep.

Recently Mrs. Aaron began work- and left it on the dresser in his room, and then went again to see his wife. Aaron was living there about 4:30 p. m. he was met at the door by Mrs. Aaron's mother, Mrs. Betty Walsh. He asked to speak to his wife, and when the mother appeared a bit apprehensive, hastened to reassure saying quietly, "I'm not going to harm her, see I haven't any."

According to friends and the surviving relatives of the deceased couple, continued to entreat her to return. Failed.

Begged For Reconciliation

According to friends and the surviving relatives of the deceased couple, continued to entreat her to return. Failed.

Mother Was Her Last Word

About 9:17 p. m. the mother heard her daughter call to her, "Oh mother, since the tone of voice was not hysterical, Mrs. Walsh walked at an

ordinary pace into the front room where she had left the two. As she stepped in she saw Aaron standing in front of Mrs. Aaron who sat a few feet away. Pulling his gun from his hip pocket he fired four shots in quick succession into the body of her daughter, then turned the gun on himself, before her horrified eyes. Getting sufficient control of herself to run out screaming some one called Newton Police station.

When Detectives Hower and Varel arrived at the home of the dead man they found the following note, "Dear Mother: Thanks you have been everything to me. What I am doing, I'm sorry for, not for the people but for you and Dad. Give everything I've got in wearing apparel to Mack. Of course you realize that in cases such as this you can't get insurance but please believe me. I'm not trying to put you and Dad on the spot. I don't have much, but all I have, I owe to my dear mother and Dad. I've learned to love everybody but Emel, so goes it.

In my right mind, I do bequeath and will, every piece of furniture to my friends, my wearing apparel to A. W. Hooks. And to mother and Dad again I say I am sorry. I love you both more than you know. I am really serious now. The people called.—It meant everything to me. **July 10, 1943**

Father of 2 Commits Suicide

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Leonard Thomas, 30, of 505 N. Pittsburgh Avenue, Turners Station, took his own life Tuesday and left a note blaming "Lucille and Dr. Adams."

His body was discovered by his wife, Mrs. Della Thomas, in the gas-filled bathroom at home. The county medical examiner ruled that it was a case of suicide.

Outsiders Blamed
Near the body was a photo of his wife and one of his two children and a note addressed to the wife, in which he said:

"No one is to blame for this except Lucille and Dr. Adams. They started this thing and this time they made a good job of it. Taking me away from my children and you..." No further explanation was given.

Two Children Survive
Other survivors beside the wife and two children are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas, three brothers, five sisters, six uncles, and three aunts. **June 12, 1943**
Funeral services were held on Friday at St. Matthew Methodist Church and interment was in Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

Lover Shoots Girl Friend Then Turns Gun On Self

Former
Houston, Texas

Dallas, Texas—The only solution to the love affair between 39-year-old Mrs. Marjorie Washington, 3514 Washington, 3514

Thomas and himself would be to end their lives, Eddie Kelly, 29, 3411 State street, bellhop at a local hotel told friends and relatives several weeks ago. Thursday morning about 4 a. m. in front of the Southland Hotel he shot and killed Mrs. Washington then turned his .38 Colt automatic on himself, inflicting a wound through his forehead. He died three hours later.

Overheard Telephone Conversation
Kelly was on the switchboard about three o'clock when a call came through for Mrs. Washington. witnesses stated. He overheard her tell a man, "What did you call me down here for? Haven't I told you never to call me down here?" Then she hung up.

A few minutes later she told a bellhop that she would like for him to go with her when she started to go home. "Kelly was on that switchboard when I answered that call," she said, "because I heard under a peace bond because of having him breathing." The bellhop told her that he wasn't going down with her and that she had better not when he suspected she was having go down because she might get an affair with another man.

Mother Asked Him to Stay Away
Mrs. Mattie Glasco, mother of Mrs. Washington, asked Kelly to stay away from her daughter, sons of Mrs. Glasco told a reporter at their mother's home, 3223 Hilton. She had heard that Kelly had threatened the life of her daughter.

Kelly's father, Nathan Kelly, told the reporter that his son had been under a peace bond because of having him breathing." The bellhop told her that he wasn't going down with her and that she had better not when he suspected she was having go down because she might get an affair with another man.

Kelly had often admitted that there were only three people he loved and they were his mother, father and Mrs. Washington. Once he told his father that if they were all together he would kill all of them and kill himself too.

More than a week before the tragedy occurred Kelly had returned from California where he had stayed approximately three weeks, contemplating that Mrs. Washington would join him. She didn't and he returned.

For the last three months, relatives of both Kelly and Mrs. Washington, because of the affair between co-workers felt that her life was the two had been troublesome. Both endangered.

Mrs. Washington's mother and Kelly's father had tried to reason with each of them. Kelly had drawn his gun on Mrs. Washington, placing it on her heart several times, but Walker said, and told her that she had mustered nerve enough to avoid being killed.

Divorced from Husband
Milton Washington, divorced husband of the deceased woman, was in Los Angeles, California when the tragedy occurred. He told a Dallas Express reporter that he and his former wife had been separated and divorced more than a year. He received the message of her death Thursday and left California for Dallas. The purpose of his trip was

to take their three-year-old baby, Mattie Alice, back to Los Angeles to live with him. The child was being kept by a cousin of his wife, he said. He would not stay for the funeral he said.

Kelly had lavishly given Mrs. Washington money and gifts, some of the relatives said, and he often lamented that he was truly in love with her.

Funeral services were held for Kelly at 2:30 p.m. at a local funeral chapel. He is survived by his father, Nathan Kelly; his mother, Mrs. Zulene Watson, two children and several aunts.

Funeral services for Mrs. Washington were held at the Boll Street CME church at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Mattie Glasco; her daughter, Mrs. Mattie Alice Washington; a stepfather, Fred Glasco; a sister, Mrs. Hurd of Los Angeles; brothers, Edson Daniels, Denver, Colorado; Dr. Daniels, Clearview, Oklahoma; Alfonso Daniels, Dallas; nieces, Juanita, Gladys and Cora Daniel nephews, Lozell and Alfonso Daniels, Jr., Albert Daniels, and Richard Wayne Hurd.

Mother Of Florence Warwick Ends Life
Atlanta, Georgia
Daily World

In Birmingham
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (SNS) Home alone, Mrs. May Warwick, 332-14th St. North, ended her life between 8 and 10 o'clock Monday morning by sending a pistol bullet through her right temple.

Mother of Miss Florence Warwick, well-known classic dancer and former Atlanta school teacher in Spelman College, who is now living in Cleveland, Mrs. Warwick was believed to be despondent over the condition of her health. Police records said that she had been receiving treatments. Her husband, who told reporters he had "nothing to say" is understood to have gone to town and returned dead from being shot twice with a home to find the lifeless form of his wife heaped upon the bathroom floor.

The couple had recently occupied their Enon Ridge home. Words winged around that domestic discord might have weaved in to the despondency motive. Detectives Degroat and Propst investigated the tragedy. The coroner returned a finding of suicide.

Bradford Service took charge of the body. The self-slain victim is also survived by a son, Paul Warwick, a soldier in the U. S. Army.

Preacher Kills Ex-Sweetheart
Courier 21 1943

Takes Own Life
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 19—(ANP)—Maddened with jealousy because his attractive 41-year-old widowed sweetheart had threatened to quit him for a more desirable lover, a romantic 76-year-old preacher, Lothario early Sunday, August 8, sent four slugs crashing through the woman's body, then after drinking a large portion of lysol, fatally slashed his own throat with a large butcher knife.

Neighbors who heard screams coming from the woman's house entered to find the blood-spattered body of Mrs. Thelma Johnson, an ardent church worker, on the bedroom floor, and less than a yard away lay her lover-assailant, the Rev. G. W. Adams.

LOVE GREW COLD
Mrs. Elma Wright, only child of the slain woman, told police that her mother and the Rev. Mr. Adams, who is married, had been "going together" for three years and that she had suddenly tired of him. Detectives quoted her as saying the minister threatened Mrs. Johnson several times when she informed him that she intended breaking her relationship with him.

She was a prominent member of Reed Baptist church, while Rev. Adams served as assistant pastor of Zion Hill Baptist church.

Other than the daughter, Mrs. Johnson is survived by a sister, Mrs. Thelma Hill and two brothers, R. E. Moore and Raucell Moore of Panama City, Fla.

Rev. Mr. Adams is survived only by his wife, who has been an invalid for several years.

FARMER KILLS HIS WIFE AND THEN TAKES HIS OWN LIFE
Globe and Independent

Tragedy Took Place Near Memphis on Sunday Morning
Nashville, Tenn.

Memphis, Tenn. (Spl.)—A wife of nine children is reported to have committed suicide by shooting herself in the head with a 12-gauge shotgun. The husband, who did the shooting is also dead, having turned the gun on himself and committed suicide. The murders are Clayton Horton, 40, a farmer from near Benjestown, Tenn., and Mrs. Indiana Horton, also age 40.

The tragedy took place on Sunday morning, August 8. Mrs. Horton was shot to death by her infuriated husband as she pleaded pitifully with him not to kill her in the presence of her children. Her pleas were of no avail. The husband is said to have become mentally deranged over reports he had received of attentions his wife had paid to other men, and evidently decided that slaying his wife and then committing suicide was the only way to end his troubles.

Horton is said to have come home early Sunday morning and decided on the action he was going to take. One of the small children died instantly. Mrs. Horton said that she, after he came home, placed the gun stock on the floor and aimed the barrel at his head. The bullets blew the top of his head off. Some of the scattered bullets slightly injured one of the children.

It was then that he got the children.

He then walked to a mirror and fired at his wife, been good liver, owing considerable property and had money in the bank. Horton's mother said she "couldn't understand it except the devil must have gotten into him."

The Hortons were said to have been good liver, owing considerable property and had money in the bank. Horton's mother said she "couldn't understand it except the devil must have gotten into him."

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68-1943

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Woman, 52, Commits Suicide By Gas In Bed; Leaves Note To Husband Saying, "I'm Sorry"

A well known 52-year-old Frankford woman committed suicide by gas last Friday night (Christmas) and was found dead in bed by her husband. The victim was Mrs. Eleznia Presberry, of 1711 Meadow street, who was pronounced dead on arrival at the Frankford Hospital last Saturday. Mrs. Presberry's body was discovered by her husband, Kenton Presberry, returning home after a visit out of the city. Police and Coroner's deputies said Presberry found a note near the bed.

The note, believed to have been written by the victim before she committed the act which snuffed out her life, stated "I'm sorry I did this."

The note also requested the finder to notify Mrs. Presberry's brother, James E. Tucker, of 2325 north Van Pelt street.

Police said Mrs. Presberry evidently turned on the gas Christmas night before getting into bed. An examination revealed that she had been dead approximately 24 hours before her body was found.

Nervous Disorder

Physicians at Frankford Hospital said death was caused by illuminating gas poisoning. Presberry said the gas was still on when he made the grim discovery.

Friends of the deceased said she had been suffering from a nervous disorder for some time and was being treated for that condition by a private physician.

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia Realtor Kills Self 6 Weeks After Wife Dies

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 28—(AN P)—Weighted down with despondency all through the holidays because they were the first for many years he and his wife had not enjoyed together, Joseph Young, 72 year old realtor, killed himself last week. Having retired from a successful real estate career, he and Mrs. Young had been spending their declining years quietly at their home.

But six weeks ago his wife, Mrs. Wade Young, died after a brief illness, and grief over the separation by death seemed to be more than the devoted husband could bear. Apparently making up his mind suddenly, he went to the yard in front of his home and fired a bullet through his right

temple, death coming instantly. Even at the early hour of 8 a.m. when it occurred, a large crowd quickly gathered and aid was called but nothing could be done.

That his own ill-health was adding to his worries was revealed by the note found on the aged man's body. It read: "I am sick; I can't sleep, and I am so tired. Good-bye. Thanks for your kindness. Signed: Joseph Young." He is survived by a sister-in-law, Mrs. Sarah Parker, and other relatives.

Bee

Chicago, Ill.

Kills Self Rather Than Go Blind

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 21—Knowing that his wife, Mrs. Obelia Teal, had been watching him in order to prevent his carrying out threats of self-destruction, last week John Henry Teal, slipped out to the garage of their home just after she had left the house for a walk. With his pistol the determined man shot himself twice but lived until the next day when he succumbed at General hospital.

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

WIFE'S DEATH CAUSES SUICIDE OF REALTOR, 72

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—(AN P)—Joseph Young, retired realtor, 72, killed himself here last week in despondency over his wife's death, six weeks ago.

Chicago, Illinois

Cop Slays Wife, Then Kills Self

LOS ANGELES—The quiet of the local-Negro community was shattered this week by a hail of gunfire which left in its wake the slumped body of an attractive housewife and the sprawled and mortally wounded frame of her police officer husband.

Victims of the shooting were Mrs. Emel Aaron, shot through the head three times, and Lester Aaron, young police officer, victim of his gun.

The murder-suicide occurred in the living room of the young wife's mother, where the police-husband had gone seeking her following their recent estrangement. He had left a lengthy letter behind to his parents explaining his intentions to go through with his act and begging their forgiveness.

"I love both you and dad above everything, and everyone else except Emel," the note written to his mother read in part. Mrs. Betty Welsh, widowed mother of the slaying victim, related how she left her daughter and son-in-law seated in the living room talking just a few moments before the shooting occurred. She said she heard her daughter call "mother," which was immediately followed by gunfire.

Running into the room she said she saw her son-in-law standing in front of the divan chair shooting her daughter about the head and face. She said she then saw the man turn the gun to his head and fire a shot. She said she then fled the room to summon aid.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Akron Deaths Seen As Murder, Suicide

Akron, Ohio, April 4 (AP).—Deputy Sheriff Robert Smith of Summit County expressed belief today Miss Lucille D'Aprano, 23-year-old Kent State University co-ed from Cleveland, was shot fatally by George W. Reynolds, 55, Negro former convict, who then killed himself, but Coroner R. E. Amos held to his original verdict of a double slaying.

Smith gave his opinion after the finding of Miss D'Aprano's purse 12 miles from the place where her body was found. The deputy theorized Reynolds, a guard at the Twin Lakes Country Club, where Miss D'Aprano was employed as a part-time waitress, shot the girl, drove 12 miles with her body, and then killed himself.

Globe and Independent Nashville, Tenn. Rumor of Death Of Soldier-Son Causes Suicide

APR 23 1943

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Officials said that the woman took the lye immediately after being told that her son had been drowned while fighting somewhere with the army. They say that reports indicate that the boy is alive somewhere overseas. A telegram was sent to the army post office in California with the hope that a cable to the son will reach him advising him of his mother's death. Coroner Elliott in commenting

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Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

RUMORS OF SOLDIER'S DEATH CAUSES SUICIDE

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Birmingham Post Birmingham, Alabama NEGRO SLAYS WIFE, THEN ENDS OWN LIFE

HUNTSVILLE, April 30.—(Special) —Failing to induce his estranged wife, Mamie King Stevens, to return home with him after she had sought refuge at the home of her mother, Robert Stevens, 26, Negro porter, shot her to death and after she fell he picked up her body, carried it back into the room where the tragic quarrel took place, laid it on the bed and then fired a bullet through his own temple. Both were dead when relatives rushed into the room.

Soldier Falsely Reported Dead, Mother Kills Self

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Because some neighborhood busybody gave voice to an 1948 rumor, the mother of a colored soldier serving his country in the armed forces overseas, is dead.

Mrs. Ollie Gay, of this city, told last week that her son, Leroy, had been killed in battle. The neighbor who reputedly advised the woman of her son's death declared that he had been drowned while serving with the army. Without waiting for official announcement of the death, Mrs. Gay is said to have gone into her kitchen and swallowed a quantity of lye.

Reports from the coroner's office stated that Mrs. Gay had been worried for some time, ever since it became known her son had left this country. She was discovered lying on the floor of her kitchen by friends who went to call on her Tuesday night. Rushed to the hospital, the woman died Wednesday morning after telling hospital attendants what she had done.

From all accounts, officials say, the son is alive somewhere overseas. A telegram was sent to the army post-office in California with the hope that a cable to the son will reach him apprising him of his mother's death.

The coroner summed up the situation by saying, "That is what loose talk and idle rumors will do to the innocent in this war."

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Cleric's Wife Kills Self in N.C. Home

STATESVILLE, N.C. — Mrs. Laura P. Croom, 45, wife of the Rev. J. W. Croom of First Baptist Church, committed suicide early last Saturday morning by shooting herself in the heart at her home on Garfield Street.

Mrs. Croom had been seriously ill for a number of months, and her father had died several weeks ago. The shot was heard by her

MARTINSVILLE, Va.

Negro youth, apparently worried over the induction of his brother into the army and his slated induction within a few days, hanged himself, Monday, Feb. 22. Divers King, 18-year-old youth, was found hanged at his home by younger children.

Dr. H. G. Hammond, coroner, reported the hanging, and it was thought the youth committed suicide over the drafting of his brother the same day and his scheduled induction within a few days. It was reported that King was slated to go to the army in the city's Selective Service call on March 10.

Negro Shoots Woman, Kills Self To Escape Arrest In Bus Station

TULLAHOMA, Tenn. — (AP) — A Tullahoma Negro cafe operator, George Johnson, died in a Nashville hospital Thursday of a pistol wound self inflicted, officers said, when they sought to arrest him for the murder of Mrs. Norma Faye Scogin, whose body was found on the Camp Forrest Military Reservation about three miles from here Wednesday morning.

A coroner's jury returned a verdict of murder and criminal assault in the death of Mrs. Scogin, wife of Lt. George L. Scogin, of Des Moines.

Before losing his consciousness, Johnson admitted shooting Mrs. Scogin and beating her with the butt of his pistol, Sgt. J. J. Jackson, of the State Highway Patrol said.

Officers had sought Johnson on the basis of information furnished by Pittman Ward, Tullahoma Negro, who reported the crime to Coffee County authorities.

Ward's account of the killing was vague, officers said. Sheriff Banks and Tullahoma Police Chief W. C. Hale said Ward told them he and a Negro soldier had been drinking and riding around Tullahoma Tuesday night and Johnson forced walk out on the front porch and him to join them.

Johnson attracted the attention of Mrs. Scogin, who was walking along the street, and she was forced to enter the car after which they drove to a spot where the body later was found, Ward said. He said the woman was on the back seat of the car and Johnson became involved in an argument with her and shot her twice.

Camp Forrest officials said the Negro soldier was Pvt. Cyrus Key

of Florence, Ala., who had an officer's car he was taking into town to be repaired. They said Key was being detained on the post, pending completion of the investigation.

Body Of Lysol Victim Sent To Montgomery, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (SNS) — Body of Mrs. Isabelle Tolliver, age 40, 230 Ninth Avenue, South, who took her own life by drinking a bottle of lysol, according to police records, was forwarded to Montgomery, Ala., for burial Saturday, according to the Bradford Funeral Home, in charge of the body.

Police records said that Mrs. Mattie Bryant, sister, of the same address, said that Mrs. Tolliver, in ill health, had tried to kill herself several times before she drank the life-ending fluid.

Mrs. Bryant, according to police records said that about 8:30 p. m., April 25, Mrs. Tolliver knocked on the door to her room and cried, "I have taken some poison." She rushed to Hillman Hospital in a private car, arriving around 9:10 p. m., she died about 10:22 the same day.

Officers J. Haley and G. L. Patton together with Detectives J. R. Norrell and C. L. Pierre investigated.

The coroner gave a "suicide" verdict. Amsterdam Star-News New York, N. Y. Son's Death Rumor

Results in Suicide

AUGUSTA, GA. — (ANP) — Mrs. Ollie Gay died Wednesday at the University hospital of poison taken when unidentified persons told her that her son, a soldier stationed overseas with the American army, was drowned, according to Coroner R. Allen Elliott, who is conducting an investigation.

Officials said that the woman took the poison immediately after being told that her son had been drowned while fighting somewhere with the army.

They say that reports indicate that the boy is alive somewhere overseas.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Argument over Funeral Leads to Two Deaths

PHILADELPHIA

A bitter argument over attending a funeral ended Thursday morning in the murder of a soldier's wife and the suicide of the father of three children.

Shot twice through the temple, was Mrs. Agnes I. Walker, 32, of 416 S. Fifteenth Street.

Found dead in the same room was Theodore Handley, 42, who police said put a bullet through his own brain after fatally wounding Mrs. Walker.

Relative Heard Argument

The two, who relatives said had been living together in a second-floor apartment for the past two months, were found by the janitress, Mrs. Alma Conger, after a sister-in-law of Mrs. Walker became suspicious.

The sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Peterson, told detectives and coroner's officials that she had heard the couple arguing in the adjoining room.

She said Handley objected to Mrs. Walker's attending the funeral of a friend. At the height of the argument, the woman threatened to call the police, and three shots were heard.

Both Defense Workers

Detective Richard Anderson and Deputy Coroner William Byrd found a 22-calibre revolver in the room. Handley's temple showed powder burns.

Mrs. Walker, whose husband has been in the army for several months, was a power machine operator at the Quartermaster Depot. Handley was employed at the Navy Yard.

His estranged wife, Mrs. Mildred Handley, lives at 2214 N. Twenty-first Street with their three children. She identified his body at the morgue.

Before he moved to the Fifteenth Street address, Handley lived at 5836 Girard Avenue.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Thompkins

parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Thompkins of Kansas City, Mo., sister, Mrs. James Porter, of Chicago. Interment was in-Kansas

Lieutenant Thompkins was, un-

married. He is survived by his

CAMP BRECKENRIDGE, Ky. — The death of Lieut. Edward A. Thompkins here April 17 has been reported as suicide due to domestic

a Suicide, Report Says

68-1943

PV Checks People's Voice Hush Hush Of Suicide

By YVONNE GREGORY

The body of death must be removed from a 23-year-old prisoner's prison. Woodrow Samuels, who, police claim, officer, McSwain Wardlow, nor to hung himself last week in the 123d st station. It is on its way to South Carolina for burial, and what appears to be a flagrant example of police "hush-up" would have slipped into obscurity.

This case will not go unquestioned; it must not be allowed to slide out of the public mind. It is of the same material as the notorious Edward Melendes case in St. Louis, Mo. Melendes and Samuels both died in police cell and causes of their deaths were not properly reported. PV recovered the body of Woodrow The St. Louis Star-Times refused to let Melendes case die because facts indicated foul play. PV reporters were able to stop Samuels' family on their way to Lynchburg, SC, Monday, for his funeral. They were further able to check the shipment of his body, and it now lies in the morgue, awaiting the autopsy that it did not but should have received by law.

This is the story of what happened to Woodrow Samuels, so far as is now known. He had been a roofer's helper since he was released last February on parole from prison in Elmira, NY. He had served 18 months there on an assault conviction. Samuels quit his job last Saturday because he had passed his final physical examination and was to be inducted into the army on Saturday, June 26. He was picked up Wednesday on an alleged robbery charge and taken to the 123rd st police station, where he is supposed to have been placed in a cell, and to have hanged himself 15 minutes later with his own belt.

When his father, Isaac Samuels of 38 W 129th st received a report of Woodrow's death later Wednesday afternoon and went to the police station to make inquiries, he was refused the name of the arresting officer. He was not allowed to see his son's body.

Why did police allow this prisoner to retain his belt in the cell when, by law, belts, suspenders, and other possible instruments of death must be removed from a prisoner's prison. Evidence of reasons for hush-up are: Woodrow Samuels, who, police claim, officer, McSwain Wardlow, nor to hung himself last week in the 123d st station. It is on its way to South Carolina for burial, and what appears to be a flagrant example of police "hush-up" would have slipped into obscurity.

According to Mrs. Florence Browne, 62 W. 132nd st., the undertaker who handled Samuels' body, NO AUTOPSY HAD BEEN MADE. Further, Mrs. Browne stated that there was no bruise on the boy's body, and no mark whatsoever around his throat, but that his neck had obviously been broken.

PV recovered the body of Woodrow Samuels for the above reasons. Isaac Samuels went to the District Attorney's office Tuesday and demanded that an immediate investigation be made of the circumstances surrounding his son's death, and that pending that investigation, an autopsy be performed. Woodrow Samuels may have been a parolee, he may have been guilty of the alleged robbery charge, but, he is entitled to the full benefit of the law. If his rights are denied the rights of the entire community become gravely endangered.

As pieced together by police, the slayings followed this pattern: Says He Was Gyped

Mad Salesman Baltimore, Maryland Slays Bosses, Afro-American Two Women

William Harrison,
Hampton Grad, Then
Shoots Self in Mouth

HAD DISPUTE OVER
\$15 COMMISSION

Displeasure With Room Care Blamed in Maid's Slaying

PHILADELPHIA

Locking himself in his room at the Christian Street YMCA after going berserk with a .32 calibre revolver and killing two women and two men in separate affrays, William H. Harrison, 58-year-old salesman, ended his own life, Monday morning, while detectives hammered on his door to arrest him for murder.

Within 90 minutes, police say, Harrison, a graduate of Hampton Institute and said to have been connected with the administrative staff at one time, killed his two employers in North Philadelphia, then came back to the Y at 1721 Christian Street and shot the two women.

Known to acquaintances as a "chronic groucher," Harrison brooded over a series of fancied wrongs and grudges before going on a rampage that left dead:

Mrs. Nora Calhoun Harley, 26, of 5530 Ludlow Street, assistant to YMCA Executive Secretary Henry C. Parker, Jr., and bride of less than three months. Miss Madease Chappell, 29, of 1927 Fountain Street, a maid at the Y, against whom the slayer nursed a grudge over a bed-spread torn accidentally a year ago.

Samuel Clokey, 58, white, a partner of the real estate firm at 1534 N. Broad Street which employed Harrison.

David Fink, 47, white, the other partner.

It was learned that Harrison's continuous grouching at the YMCA had become so annoying that officials decided to ask him for the room which had occupied for fifteen years. They had planned to do so last week, but postponed doing it until December 1, after the Thanksgiving holidays.

As pieced together by police, the slayings followed this pattern: Says He Was Gyped

Harrison, who had accused his employers of "gypping" him out of a \$15 commission on Saturday, went to the real estate office at about 9 a.m. Monday morning and killed both partners with a burst of five shots from the revolver.

From the office, he returned to the Y, met Miss Susie Moses, 38, of 1862 Uber Street, another maid in the third floor hall and asked her where Miss Chappell was.

Aware of the feud between the two, Miss Moses said she didn't know, and Harrison shouted for Miss Chappell who was cleaning Room 309. Miss Chappell came to the door to answer him. He followed her inside, firing twice. One

bullet struck her in the face and the other in the breast. She died instantly.

Barricades Door

Hearing the shots, Miss Moses screamed, dashed into Room 302 and barricaded the door. Mrs. Harley, standing in the lobby telling a co-worker how she and her bridegroom, Philip Harley, theology student at Morgan State College, had spent the Thanksgiving holidays, heard the screams and ran up to investigate.

At the third floor landing, she rushed past the "wild-eyed" Harrison who shot her in the back then ran to his fourth-floor room and locked himself in. Fatally wounded, Mrs. Harley slumped across the landing.

Detectives, summoned by John Frisby, building superintendent, raced upstairs to Harrison's room, banged on the door, then opened it with a pass key. Just as they stepped inside, the salesman placed the barrel of the gun to his mouth and fired. He dropped to the floor dead.

Meanwhile, Capt. William Engle of the homicide squad and a squad of detectives were at the real estate office, which operated under the firm name of the George H. White Realty and Development Company, named for the only colored man to serve as a Congressman from North Carolina.

The detectives were digging through the files of the company, which employed a large staff of colored salesmen throughout the country, had noted that there were several complaints about unpaid commissions and were preparing to send men to question the complaining salesmen when the phone rang. The message was about Harrison's shooting up the Y. A clerk at the office said the company employed a salesman named Harrison who lived at the YMCA and the detectives began to put things together.

Boy, 12. Tries Afro-American in Vain to Stop Baltimore, Md. Father-Suicide

PHILADELPHIA
Which his 12-year-old son tried frantically to stop, Frank Green, 46, a Navy Yard employee, fatally slashed his throat with a kitchen knife in the bathroom of his home at 1731 Ellsworth Street, Friday morning, less than 40 minutes after warning his wife they were eating their "last meal together."

Green, who was gassed in World War I, died before neighbors summoned by the son, Harold, and a second time. The blast struck the roomer, Mrs. Priscilla Lee, were able to have him taken to Grad-

Hospital.
His wife, Mrs. Lena Green, said he was worried about the outcome of a trial, scheduled for Wednesday, in which he faced charges of shooting her during an argument last month.

Acted Queerly Since Shooting

She told Deputy Coroner William A. Byrd that her husband had acted "queerly" ever since the shooting, intimating on several occasions that something "tragic" would happen. When they finished breakfast at 6:30 a.m., Mrs. Green said, he told her that was their "last meal together."

After she left for work at the signal corps, where she is employed as a power machine operator, Green went into his son's bedroom and told the boy what he intended to do, saying: "I love your mother." The boy aroused Mrs. Lee and the two followed Green to the bathroom, but were unable to restrain him from his act.

Farmer Slays Wife, Self As Two Children Watch

Chicago, Ill.
By NAT WILLIAMS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—A farmer's wife pleaded with him not to kill her in the presence of her children last Sunday. But she pleaded in vain.

For Clayton Horton, well-known resident of Benjestown, a community just outside the Memphis city limits, was bent on killing his wife and himself. He leveled a 12-gauge shotgun at his wife, Mrs. Indiana Horton, 40, and in the presence of two of their nine children, shot her to death. He then turned the gun on himself and blew his own head off.

Investigating officers could not establish a well-defined motive for the murder-suicide but informed reports were to the effect that the husband became infuriated over other men's attention to his wife. The husband and wife were forty years old each. They were among the most prosperous and well-known residents of the Benjestown community.

The only eye-witness version of the tragedy was provided by one of the children. Horton came home early Sunday morning, and when his wife said she was going out, he is alleged to have remarked, "Wait. . . there's going to be plenty hell around here before you leave." It was then he took his gun and leveled it at his wife. The shots struck her in the side as she begged him not to shoot her again. He fired a second time. The blast struck the woman in the jaw. She died almost instantly.

Funeral ceremonies for the couple were held last week. Horton then walked to the mirror, placed the stock of the gun on the floor and aimed the barrel at his own head. The pellets blew the top of his head off. Several of the shots injured one of his children slightly. The couple were owners of considerable live-stock, chickens and other farm products. They were tenants on the large farm of Mrs. Emily Horton, no relation, who is a member of one of West Tennessee's best-known and most prominent colored families.

SOUTHERN CAMP CONDITIONS CAUSE

SOLDIER TO COMMIT SUICIDE

Boston, Mass.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Because conditions in his camp were unbearable, Pfc. Frazier Smith, Jr., of 981 Fulton st., stationed at Pickett, Va., chose death as a way out, it was revealed this week.

The youthful soldier, home on a furlough from the camp, told friends that conditions in the southern camp were intolerable and he would die first rather than return to the camp and suffer any more humiliations and discriminations. His family tried to encourage the youth to back out, little realizing that he was serious in his threat until his father, Frazier Smith, Sr., is said to have returned home one day and found the youth had just turned on some gas jets in an attempt to take his life.

Thwarted in the attempt, the youth left his home in Brooklyn and went to an apartment at 147 West 122nd st., Manhattan, on August 18th, where he committed suicide by inhaling gas.

Funeral services were held August 22 from the Merritt Green Funeral Chapel, Brooklyn, with the Rev. W. E. Gregory, of Philadelphia, officiating.

Besides his father, other survivors include two sisters and three brothers.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Woman Commits Suicide When "Boyfriend" Quits

Julia Banks, 26, of 533 north 36th street, died in the Presbyterian Hospital, Sunday, after admittedly drinking poison.

Miss Banks entered her sister's home, Saturday, and stated that she had drunk lysol. Her sister, Mrs. Lottie Graham, gave her a bottle of poison and rushed her to the hospital where she was pronounced dead at 6:55 a. m. Sunday by Dr. Golding.

Officials report that a week ago Miss Banks had had an

argument with her boy friend, who severed their relations and left for the South. Since that time she had been drinking heavily.

During the investigation, directed by William A. Byrd, deputy coroner, it was learned that five years ago Miss Banks had suffered a nervous collapse, the result of which was a state of mental instability.

She was born in Virginia and was employed as a machine operator in a local mill at the time of her death.